



Testimony by Chris Syrek, President of  
Associated Builders & Contractors of Connecticut

**Before the Judiciary Committee on March 23, 2015**

**HB 6922 An Act Increasing the Penalty for Violation of a Stop Work Order**

---

Good afternoon, my name is Chris Syrek; I am the President of Associated Builders and Contractors of Connecticut (CT ABC). CT ABC is a statewide trade association of almost 200 members that represents merit shop contractors. I want to thank the members of the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to address the committee regarding HB 6922.

CT ABC supports strong enforcement of the laws that ensure a safe and legal jobsite for all construction projects. Paying fair wages, providing the appropriate benefits and carrying the appropriate licenses are all important parts of being a qualified contractor.

There is no question those who break the law should be punished accordingly, and if a stop work order is issued the contractor must obey the order and not return to work until they have taken the steps to correct the issue. The current penalty for violating a stop work order is \$1,000 per day, however HB 6922 would increase that amount to \$10,000 per day. The increase this bill creates is obviously significant. While it may be the appropriate time to increase the penalty, we would question why the increase is ten times higher than the current penalty. If it is decided that an increase is warranted, perhaps a smaller increase to the monetary fine would be more appropriate.